

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A composition comprising the peptide:  
Y-W-S-A<sub>1</sub>-C-S-A<sub>2</sub>-C-G-Z (SEQ ID NO: 9)  
wherein Y and Z consist of: ~~comprise~~:  
(a) amino acid chains consisting of 0-6 amino acids; or  
(b) chains of compounds which are not amino acids,  
wherein A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are amino acid sequences consisting of ~~comprising~~ 1 to 5  
amino acids (~~SEQ ID NOS: 97-168~~) and further wherein the peptide is not selected from the  
group consisting of one of the following sequences:  
-W-S-P-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:2),  
-W-S-S-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:3), and  
-W-S-Q-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:4).
2. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein  
said A<sub>1</sub> is Pro or -X<sub>1</sub>-W-X<sub>2</sub>-X<sub>3</sub>- (SEQ ID NO:5), ~~X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and X<sub>3</sub> being chosen, independently  
of each other, from G, S and C, denoted SEQ ID NOS:50-59.~~
3. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 2, wherein  
said A<sub>1</sub> is -X<sub>1</sub>-W-S-X<sub>3</sub>- (SEQ ID NO:6), ~~denoted SEQ ID NOS:6 and SEQ ID NOS:60-64.~~
4. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein  
said A<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of -R-S-, -V-S-, and -V-T-, ~~denoted SEQ ID  
NOS:65-88.~~
5. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 3, wherein  
said peptide is ~~the following amino acid sequence:~~ -W-S-X<sub>1</sub>-W-S-X<sub>3</sub>-C-S- A<sub>2</sub>-C-G- (SEQ ID  
NO:7), ~~denoted SEQ ID NOS:7 and SEQ ID NOS:89-96, wherein, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>3</sub> are  
independently selected from G, S and C.~~

6. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 4, wherein said peptide is ~~the following amino acid sequence~~:

-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A composition comprising a peptide according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

9 – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) An additive for culturing nerve cells, comprising a peptide according to claim 1.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A peptide consisting of ~~having~~ the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).

17. (Previously presented) A composition comprising a peptide according to claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

18. (Canceled)

19 – 21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) An additive for culturing nerve cells, comprising a peptide according to claim 16.

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 97-168.

25. (New) A composition according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 50-59.

26. (New) A composition according to claim 3, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 60-64.

27. (New) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 65-88.

28. (New) A composition according to claim 5, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 89-96.